



Charlotte Mason's House of Education,
Scale How, Ambleside, UK, 2009

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2. Writing. Put the model at a small table on the other side of the room, so that you can see the lower part of the figure; get the head nearly in profile, to give the stoop of the back.

3. Sketching,—a useful pose for a landscape figure, and one which will be conveniently arranged where two members are working together.

4. Carrying a large basket (it need not be heavy) with both hands; the body leaning back a little to keep the balance.

5. Carrying the basket on the head, with one or both arms up.

6. Carrying the baby, if the models can be got, is always a good incident to have in stock.

7. Picking flowers, or what not, from the ground; one hand holding up the apron to receive the flowers (or what not), one foot a little advanced, and the balance of the figure properly kept.

8. Lying down—one of the most natural attitudes in a summer landscape, but not the easiest to draw.

All these—and they are only specimens—illustrate quiet attitudes, not depending upon quick movement. We will study Action later on; but the expression of simplicity and serenity is our present aim, the gesture of continuous uneventful employment or of absolute repose, distinct alike from violent action and rigid lifelessness.

For the Junior Class, a small flower, such as a daisy or a primrose, as it grows, not cut and put in water. The plant can be dug out, and potted, or simply laid, with its native earth, on a saucer, which saucer or pot need not be drawn. Place the plant ten or twelve feet away from you, on a level with the eye; and arrange a white card or stiff paper about a foot behind, to serve as background. Outline with pencil; fix the contours of the main masses with fine pen line; colour each mass separately with one tint, matched beforehand by trying it on the edge of a slip of paper held between your eye and the object. The lights in the masses of colour can be taken out with a nearly dry brush before the tint dries, and darks can be added afterwards. In this study, great care must be taken to get the spring of the stalk and the foreshortening of the petals and leaves. As in the figure studies of the Senior Class, this month Attitude is to be everything.

A CALENDAR.

MAY

1st. St. Philip and St. James. Collect, Epistle and Gospel. See printed hymn.

2nd.

3rd.

4th. Livingstone died 1873. Read extract from his "Travels."

"I would earnestly recommend all young missionaries to go at once to the real heathen, and never to be content with what has been made ready to their hands by men of greater enterprise. The idea of making model Christians of the young need not be entertained by anyone who is secretly convinced, as most men who know their own hearts are, that he is not a model Christian himself. The Israelitish slaves brought out of Egypt by Moses were not converted and elevated in one generation, though under the direct teaching of God himself. Notwithstanding the numbers of miracles He wrought, a generation had to be cut off because of unbelief. Our own elevation also has been the work of centuries, and, remembering this, we should not indulge in overwrought expectations as to the elevation, which those who have inherited the degradation of ages, may attain in our day." Page 116.

5th.—8th.

9th. Schiller died 1805. Read passage from Wallenstein, Coleridge's Translation.

"My son, the nursling of the camp spoke in thee!

A war of fifteen years

Hath been thy education and thy school.

Peace hast thou never witness'd! There exists

A higher than the warrior's excellence.

In war itself war is no ultimate purpose.

The vast and sudden deeds of violence,

Adventures wild and wonders of the moment,

These are not they, my son, that generate

The Calm, the Blissful, and th' enduring Mighty!

Lo there! the soldier, rapid architect!

Builds his light town of canvass, and at once

The whole scene moves and bristles momentarily

With arms, and neighing steeds, and mirth and quarrel!

The motley market fills! the roads, the streams

Are crowded with new freights; trade stirs and hurries!

But on some morrow morn, all suddenly,
The tents drop down, the hordè renews its march.
Dreary, and solitary as a churchyard,
The meadow and down-trodden seed-plot lie,
And the year's harvest is gone utterly."

10th. Theodore Parker died 1860.

"A theologian from the school
Of Cambridge on the Charles, was there;
Skilful alike with tongue and pen.
He preached to all men everywhere
The Gospel of the Golden Rule,
The new commandment given to men,
Thinking the deed, and not the creed
Would help us in our utmost need.
With reverent feet the earth he trod,
Nor banished nature from his plan,
But studied still with deep research
To build the Universal Church,
Lofty as is the love of God,
And ample as the wants of man."

Longfellow.

"He (Theodore Parker) believed in God and man so completely that his fragmentary denials were but the floating drift upon the deep swift current of his mighty faith." He wrote as follows on the 20th of April, 1847:—

"Father, help me to be true to myself, and faithful unto Thee! I ask not fame nor wealth, I ask wisdom; give me goodness. Inspire me full with truth. Enlighten me with love. Guard me from my greatest dangers. Make me useful to men. Help me to rebuke sin with holy lips—to live the excellence which I would teach. May I be a Christian man,—true, faithful, holy of heart and life! Make me equal to my duty, never above it. May my Hope be an absolute trust in Thee, my faith an abounding love, which blesses my brothers and is satisfied with Thee!"

11th.—19th.

20th. Christopher Columbus died 1506. Read Columbus. By Lowell, by Walt Whitman, and by Tennyson.

"The lesson of the great Idealist for us to-day is a two-fold lesson. The first portion of the lesson is this: If a great ideal, which seems to come from God, shines in your heart, know that patience, endurance, disappointment, are the conditions of its achievement. You may perish,—neglected, forgotten. But the truth to which you have been faithful, that shall live; for even out of your pain and sorrow God can bring rich harvests for the blessing of the world.

And the second portion of the lesson is this: The so-called practical man is not the man of most far-reaching practicality. It is the Idealist, and the Idealist alone that is practical in the largest and most fruitful way. It is the idealists who have built up the knowledge and progress, the happiness and freedom of the world. Even of your ships and your

mills and your commerce, they and they alone are the true creators. Without them the world were long since dead. They carry the torch of life down the generations and the centuries. Despised and rejected of men, they found and make all that there is of worth and good in the life of the human race."

Sermon on "Columbus the Idealist," by Rev. R. A. Armstrong, B.A.

21st.

22nd.

23rd. The burning of Fra Girolamo Savonarola on the great Piazza at Florence, 1498. Read extract from "Romola."

"Her trust in Savonarola's nature as greater than her own, made a large part of the strength she had found. And the trust was not to be lightly shaken. It is not force of intellect which causes ready repulsion from the aberration and eccentricities of greatness, any more than it is force of vision which causes the eye to explore the warts on a face bright with human expression; it is simply the negation of high sensibilities. Romola was so deeply moved by the grand energies of Savonarola's nature, that she found herself listening patiently to all dogmas and prophecies when they came in the vehicle of his ardent faith and believing utterance."

24th. Queen Victoria born 1819. Sing "God save the Queen."

25th.

26th. St. Augustine died 607. Add verse to hymn as above.

"Praise for the good Augustine, by noble Gregory sent,
When Christian Bertha came from Gaul to be the Queen of Kent;
He preached the gospel bravely, with forty monks from Rome,
Restored the Christian worship in this our island home.

27th. The Venerable Bede born 693. Read extract from "Green's History of the English People."

"In his "Ecclesiastical History of the English nation," Bæda was at once the founder of mediæval history, and the first English historian. All that we really know of the century and a half that follows the landing of Augustine, we know from him. Wherever his own personal observation extended, the story is told with admirable detail and force. He is hardly less full or accurate in the portions which he owed to his Kentish friends, Alcwine and Nothelm. What he owed to no informant was his own exquisite faculty of story-telling, and yet no story of his own telling is so touching as the story of his death. Two weeks before the Easter of 755 the old man was seized with an extreme weakness and loss of breath. He still preserved, however, his usual pleasantness and gay good humour; and in spite of prolonged sleeplessness continued his lectures to the pupils about him. Verses of his own English tongue broke from time to time from the master's life—rude rimes that told how before the "need-fare" Death's stern "must-go"; none can enough bethink him what is to be his doom for good or ill. The tears of Bæda's scholars, mingled with his song, "We never read without weeping," writes one of them. So the days rolled on to Ascension-tide, and still master and

pupils toiled at their work, for Bæda longed to bring to an end his version of St. John's Gospel into the English tongue, and his extracts from Bishop Isidore. "I don't want my boys to read a lie," he answered those who would have had him rest, "or to work to no purpose after I am gone." A few days before Ascension-tide his sickness grew upon him, but he spent the whole day in teaching, only saying cheerfully to his scholars, "Learn with what speed you may; I know not how long I may last." The dawn broke on another sleepless night, and again the old man called his scholars round him and bade them write. "There is still a chapter wanting," said the scribe, as the morning drew on, "and it is hard for thee to question thyself any longer." "It is easily done," said Bæda; "take thy pen and write quickly." Amid tears and farewells the day wore on to eventide. "There is yet one sentence unwritten, dear master," said the boy. "Write it quickly," bade the dying man. "It is finished now," said the little scribe at last. "You speak truth," said the master; "all is finished now." Placed upon the pavement, his head supported in his scholar's arms, his face turned to the spot where he was wont to pray, Bæda chanted the solemn "Glory to God." As his voice reached the close of his song he passed quietly away."

28th.—30th.

31st. Joan of Arc burned, 1431.

AUNT MAI'S BUDGET.

BY MRS. F. STEINTHAL.

MY DEAR CHILDREN,—Shakespeare writes of "cuckoo-buds of yellow hue that paint the meadows with delight." Will you tell me what "cuckoo-buds" are, and if you have found any this month?

All happy country children will also hear the cuckoo, and will try to imitate him. So when you write tell me all you can about this "herald of spring." Several children have written accounts of their gardens, and of what they intend to sow and grow this year. Some of our seeds have been eaten by our mischievous peacock and hen, and you know quite well that all naughty deeds bring their own punishment, so they are now in a large net cage, where they sit in the sun looking very sorry for what they have done.

Your loving

AUNTIE MAI.

COMPETITIONS.

These classes are open to the children of all parents who take the *Parents' Review*, and no charge is made for membership. All competitors are requested to kindly fasten their name and address on each garment, and enclose stamps for the return postage. Aunt Mai is much to be pitied at the close of each month. Out of forty contributors, only seven obeyed the rule that names and addresses must be fastened on each garment. The consequence is that poor Aunt Mai has to carefully pin the letters—in some cases only the envelopes—on to the work, and when they arrive, ten or twelve by each post, this is by no means a light and easy task. Kindly give the age each month, as this saves constant references to the *Parents' Review*.